A SECOND
APPEAL
TO THE
PUBLICK,
BY
SIGNORA MINGOTTI.

1756

(Price Sixpence.)

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LONDON:

Printed for Signora MINGOTTI, and sold at the Pamphlet-Shops in the *Hay-Market.*

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SIGNORA *MINGOTTI* in her APPEAL TO THE PUBLIC, among the many of Mr. *Vanneſchi*'s theatrical Tricks, took Notice of one no leſs cruel than deſpicable, that of *incenſing the Public againſt her by giving a ſneering and ironical Turn to his Advertiſements concerning her Indiſpoſition laſt Seaſon.*

THIS Spirit of Malevolence may again be obſerved in the Beginning of his Paragraph in the *Public-Advertiſer* of *Saturday* laſt——" *Mr.* Vanneſchi *having* " *heard that* Signora Mingotti *declared* " *herſelf to be ill*, &c."

THESE Words, as they ſtand, convey a ſneering Reproach, and imply a pretended Doubt in him of her Veracity as to her preſent Illneſs; ſhe therefore humbly begs Leave to inſert here the Certificate of her Phyſician.

" WHEREAS, it has frequently been re-
" ported, and induſtriouſly propagated,
" That the Indiſpoſition of Signora *Min-*
" *gotti* was feigned, not only this Year,
" but laſt Seaſon alſo, on Purpoſe to in-
" jure the Manager of the Opera; in Re-

" gard to Truth, and to remove ill-
" grounded Prejudices, I do hereby de-
" clare, That I viſited Signora *Mingotti*,
" as her Phyſician in her Illneſs laſt Win-
" ter, as well as now, and found her each
" Time attended with a violent Cough,
" great Hoarſeneſs, acute Fever, and Spit-
" ting of Blood: I conſtantly gave it as
" my Opinion, and frequently in Writing,
" that while ſhe continued thus diſordered,
" ſhould ſhe attempt to perform in the
" Operas, ſhe would run a manifeſt and
" imminent Danger of her Life."

Burlington-ſtreet, MICH. CONNELL.
Feb. 28, 1756.

SIGNORA *Mingotti* has it in her Power to prove whatever is contained in her APPEAL; and *Vanneſchi*'s ſaying, that " every " Article of it is invented and falſe," will not, in her Opinion, make any Impreſſion on any reaſonable Perſon, much leſs affect the Juſtice of an *Engliſh* Audience; and ſhe flatters herſelf, that her Aſſertions will at leaſt ballance his peremptory Negations; and it is an old Scholaſtick Obſervation, that, *an Aſs can deny much more in an Hour*,

Hour, than a Philoſopher prove in a thouſand Years.

VANNESCHI ſays, "that her Duty is "only to Sing, and that ſhe has no Buſi-"neſs to concern herſelf whether the "Muſick be fine or indifferent;" (that is, whether it is good or bad.) Was Intereſt the only Point ſhe had in View, Signora *Mingotti* might be content with receiving her Salary, and ſinging ſuch Compoſitions as the great Abilities of Manager *Vanneſchi* might impoſe on the Public; but ſhe always thought it her Duty to entertain, as much as poſſible, thoſe who had enabled him to fulfil his Engagements with the Performers; and has an unlucky Diſlike of thoſe Hiſſes, which the Muſicians, and not the Manager, muſt ſuffer, when the Performance is not liked; and which give him no Pain, while they do not leſſen his Profit.

BUT *Vanneſchi* is willing to forget, and hopes ſhe will either forget or conceal, that, being convinced of his Deficiency in directing muſical Matters, he conſented to inſert a Clauſe in their Contract, by which *he obliges himſelf to conſult her, both about the Poetry and the Muſick.*

IT

It is true, that Eleven Hundred Pounds were paid her laſt Seaſon; a Salary that ſhe always had in every other Country. But ſhe wiſhes, he would alſo acquaint the Publick with the Sums he cleared by the Performers laſt Year. Where is the Man who would not give One Hundred Pounds to gain double the Money, without hazarding any Capital of his own?

It is an old Proverb, *That a Cobler ſhould not go beyond his Laſt:* If Signor Impresario would adhere to that Maxim, he ſhould return to his former Occupation; and though, from the Reformation and Morality of the preſent Age, he might poſſibly have ſome vacant Hours upon his Hands; yet to be at the Head of any Profeſſion is certainly more eligible, than to undertake any Employment for which the Perſon has not one ſingle Requiſite.

N. B. Signora *Mingotti*, by the Refuſal of the *Public-Adverti ſer* and other daily Papers to take in any Paragraph that may be in her Favour, is obliged to make her Apology by this Channel. ---Her *Appeal to the Public* may be had at the Pamphlet-Shops in the *Hay-Market.*

F I N I S.

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THE Generality of thoſe that are much converſant in the World, have ſet it down as a ſtanding Maxim, that Remonſtrance and Complaint, though extorted by Oppreſſion and ſupported by Reaſon, have but little Effect, when direct-

ed to the Publick; for moſt Men have but very ſhort Intervals of Attention to beſtow upon private Grievances and Concerns.

YET I thank my Stars, that this has not quite been my Caſe, when I publiſhed my firſt Appeal; and I have Reaſon for thanking the greateſt Part of my Readers, whoſe Juſtice was neither biaſſed by *Vanneſchi*'s Tears, nor influenced by the moſt cruel Aſperſions of Falſhood and Malice, and although the repeated Refuſals of the Printers of Publick News Papers to accept any thing that looked like an Apology from *Mingotti*, muſt naturally have incenſed me more and more againſt him, who has got them entirely on his Side, yet the Encouragement that my Propoſals for an Opera met with, and the long Liſt of my generous Subſcribers has almoſt totally extinguiſhed my Indignation at ſuch unfair Dealing; and Gratitude to my Friends leaves but little Room for Reſentment againſt my Calumniators.

IT was Gratitude to my Favourers and Subſcribers, that induced me to ſing again

again after my late ill-interpreted Indiſpoſition. Motives of Intereſt I neither could nor can have, when *Vanneſchi* not only denies to pay me for my performing twenty-three Nights in the firſt four Months of the Seaſon, but does not appear to have the leaſt Diſpoſition to pay me for what I am at preſent doing, and ſhall do to the End of the Seaſon.

He advertiſed, that a Fund was by him depoſited in the Hands of Mr. *Drummond*, to anſwer all *legal Demands* on him; and I muſt add further, that Mr. *Drummond* himſelf was Security to me when I engaged with *Vanneſchi*; but though I took then as much Precaution as I could to have nothing to do with this Manager relating to my Salary, yet, not knowing enough of the Laws and Cuſtoms of *England*, I contrived my Security ſo unſkilfully, that Mr. *Drummond* now ſays, he cannot diſburſe me the firſt Payment without an Order from *Vanneſchi*; and this Order *Vanneſchi* will not give him.

WHAT muſt I do then? Proceed againſt Mr. *Drummond*, and embarraſs myſelf in a Suit againſt a Gentleman, whoſe general Character engages my Reſpect, and whoſe private Civilities demand my Affection? Shall I proceed againſt *Vanneſchi?* But *Vanneſchi* has had a Protection ever ſince I have been in *England*; and muſt I run the Danger, by proſecuting him, of giving Offence to a foreign Nobleman, who has always been pleaſed to uſe me civilly; or incur the Indignation of a Court where I have been kindly received and largely paid, and to which I wiſh and hope to return one Day or other? He has the Confidence to inform the Publick, that he has always fulfilled his Contracts. Very true. Had he not, he would be a Manager no more: But how dares the Man talk of Contracts like a Merchant that gets himſelf protected like a ———? To what End does he provide a Shelter againſt the Law? Does he want to ſecure ſuch a Retreat, or does he think that a new Degree of Honour is conferred upon him by a Protection?

BUT

But I ſhall ſing on, and do my beſt for the Remainder of the Seaſon: I ſhall endeavour to fill the Houſe and procure him Money, that he may act with more Vehemence againſt me at Law: Provided I ſatisfy the Subſcribers, I will do my utmoſt towards the good Succeſs of the Opera, as I have always done whenever I have been well; but *Vanneſchi* ſhall not be my Maſter next Seaſon, though I am told he aſſures his Friends that I made him Propoſals of Accomodation, ſince I heard Signora *Aſtrua* mentioned; that is, that I offer to play for him the Part of firſt Man when *Aſtrua* comes as firſt Woman. I proteſt moſt ſolemnly, that this is falſe, and that, be the Conſequence what it will, I will have no further Dealings with him. If the ſuperior Number of my Subſcribers ſhall procure the Opera-Houſe for me and my two Aſſociates *Ricciarelli* and *Giardini*, I ſhall have no Difficulty to give *Aſtrua* the ſame Sum, that I am told *Vanneſchi* offers her; and if the Nobility will ſee us acting on the ſame Stage together, *Ricciarelli* and I will contrive it ſo, as to give them

them full Satisfaction on this Head, nor ſhall Rivalry, however dangerous to muſical Pleaſures, have any other Effect than to promote the utmoſt Exertion of our Powers for the Entertainment of our Audience; but as for *Vanneſchi* he ſhall not ſee an *Aſtrua* and a *Mingotti* joining their Efforts to the Advantage of his Pocket. His poetical Abilities, his muſical Knowledge, and his Skill in Decorations are not ſufficient to entitle him to the Management of two ſuch Singers; and I hope I ſhall not give Offence to any Body, when I repeat my Proteſtation, that I will never forget, though I can pardon the groſs Abuſe which I have ſuffered, and that I ſhall never ſtoop ſo low as to liſten to Terms of Accomodation with this Gentleman.

WHATEVER be the Conſequence of my Struggle againſt Oppreſſion; whether it ſhall be permitted me to endeavour another Year the Entertainment of the *Engliſh* Nobility, or the Tears and Flatteries of *Vanneſchi* ſhall enable him to drive me into ſome other Country, I ſhall always remember the Candour with which my Com-

Complaints have been heard, and the Generoſity with which my Intereſt has been promoted ; and though Succeſs or Miſcarriage may influence my Fortune, they ſhall have no Effect upon my Gratitude.

F I N I S.

Complaints have been heard, and the Ge-
nerality with which my Interest has been
promoted; and though Success or Miscar-
riage may influence my Fortune, they shall
have no Effect upon my Gratitude.